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NOTICES

Nepal Studies Association

A meeting of the Nepal Studies Association was convened in Boston on April 1, 1987, during the Association of Asian Studies meetings. Attending were:

Kathryn March, Cornell University
Michael Witzel, Harvard University
Marc Gaborieau, Ecole des Hautes Etudes, Paris
Melvyn Goldstein, Case Western Reserve
Ruth Schmidt, University of California, Berkeley
Richard Tucker, University of Michigan
Linda Iltis, University of Washington, Seattle
Kanak Dixit, United Nations, New York
David Holmberg, Cornell University
Naomi H. Bishop, University of Mass., Boston
Veisy Baird
Theodore Riccardi, Jr., Columbia University
William Fisher, Columbia University
Bruce Owens, Columbia University

The meeting was convened and chaired by Theodore Riccardi, Jr. The following issues were raised for discussion: 1) the relationship of the Nepal Studies Association (NSA) to the Association of Asian Studies (AAS); 2) the need for the election of officers; 3) the transfer of the Himalayan Research Bulletin to Columbia University; and 4) the need to invigorate and expand NSA.

On point one, William Fisher reported that the Nepal Studies Association was still an affiliated group of the South Asia Regional Council of the Association of Asian Studies. It was decided that meetings of NSA should continue to be held in conjunction with those of the AAS and that the next meeting would be in 1988.

With regard to point two, the election of the executive committee, it was decided that a new executive committee would be elected in 1987. It was resolved that a nominating committee be formed consisting of Ruth Schmidt (Berkeley), David Holmberg (Cornell), and Linda Iltis (Washington) to nominate candidates for election, that these nominations be submitted to the membership by ballot to be enclosed in the next issue of the Bulletin, that the present officers be asked if they wished to stand for re-election, and that the results of the election be communicated to the membership in the following issue of the HRB.

With regard to point three, the transfer of the HRB from Cornell to Columbia, Riccardi reported that the transfer had been accomplished without difficulty and that the first issue

under the new editors had been sent out to the membership. The new editors expressed their desire to expand the Bulletin so that it would include more research articles and reviews. This would be done without reducing the newsletter aspects of the journal. To do this, a rise in subscription rates would be necessary. This was approved by the meeting. The editors will also seek outside funding for the HRB, both from the South Asia Regional Council and elsewhere.

On point four, the need to invigorate the Association and increase its membership, it was generally agreed that the by-laws be reviewed, that the new officers be encouraged to take a very active role in the affairs of the association, and that the editors of the HRB take the lead in increasing the membership.

During the general discussion, the question was raised as to whether the HRB should include material on parts of the Himalayas other than Nepal. The general sense of the meeting was that material on all parts of the Himalayas should be included and that the fact that the HRB is the official publication of the NSA should not limit the content of the journal, geographically or otherwise.

Theodore Riccardi, Jr.

America-Nepal Society of California, Inc.

The America-Nepal Society of California elected a new executive committee on February 7, 1987. Elected were Kanhaiya Kayastha, President-elect; Nancy Berk, First Vice President; Ananta R. Baidya, Second Vice President; Yasuko Wachi, Secretary; and Sylvia Vrabec, Treasurer.

The purposes of the society as stated in the Articles of Incorporation are "To promote harmonious relations between the United States and Nepal, to promote educational opportunity for economically and/or educationally disadvantaged persons and to undertake such activities as may promote these goals. The society is operated exclusively for charitable purposes" (Bulletin, vol. XIV, no. 2, April 1987).

The Society publishes a bulletin. New members are welcome. The address is :

American-Nepal Society of California
2337 Palos Verdes Drive West
Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274.

Association of Nepalīs in the Americas

The Association of Nepalīs in the Americas (ANA) is a nonprofit organization founded in 1982. The objectives of ANA are to "preserve and promote Nepalīs' identity and culture; promote close cooperation among Nepalīs; keep relation with Nepal; provide financial aide to needy persons; promote charitable, educational, and religious activities; promote cordial relations with Americans; and promote cordial relations with other associations" (Bulletin, vol. 4, no. 2&3, December 1986).

Hari Sharma, M.D. is the President. The Association publishes Bulletin, a quarterly newsletter. For more information contact:

Dr. Amar Giri
17 Wythe Circle
Lancaster, PA 17601

The fifth annual meeting of ANA will be held in Greater Toronto, Canada, on July 3-5, 1987. It will be hosted by Dr. Kanjar and Carolyn Sharma, Dr. Kumud and Bhadriska Sharma.

The Executive Committee of ANA in October 1986 approved a 5-acre site in Maryland for the construction of a cultural center. The Chairman of the Cultural Center Management Committee is Ram Malakar, and Chairman for the Fund Raising Committee to raise money for the Center is Hari Sharma. The Center will promote the Nepali heritage and bring about better understanding among Nepalis.

Association of the Nepalese in Midwest America

The Association of Nepalese in Midwest America (ANMA) publishes The Viewpoints, a quarterly newsletter edited by Raj Rathi. The President of ANMA is Ram Bashyal. For information write:

ANMA
Viewpoints Editor
14 East Lakeshore Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45237

Asian Studies Newsletter Archives

The archives consist of an extensive collection of academic and cultural newsletters and association bulletins dealing in whole or in part with Asian affairs and Asian Studies. They have been developed and maintained since 1970. Three primary objectives are involved:

- 1) The creation of a centralized collection of newsletter-type materials containing information on the growth and state of Asian Studies and Asia-related organizations and about the activities of various institutions and individuals. Most publications on file have been in English, French or German, but an increasing number are in Asian languages. Many have enjoyed very limited circulation. Some have appeared in mimeographed or xeroxed format; others more closely resemble professionally printed magazines in their appearance.
- 2) The preservation of these same materials for long-term scholarly use, especially as libraries and individual recipients of newsletters generally discard them on account of their ephemeral nature. (No research library or professional organization appears to be systematically collecting and retaining such publications for Asian Studies as a whole.)
- 3) The creation of a data base that serves as the basis for the preparation of a variety of bibliographies and reference tools, some of which are published.

A two-part guide to some of these newsletters was compiled and published by Frank Joseph Shulman in the Asian Studies Professional Review (vol. 4, nos. 1 & 2, Fall/Spring 1974-75,

pp.30-58; and vol. 5, nos. 1 & 2, Fall/Spring 1975-76, pp.11-16.) Shulman is gradually preparing an updated, vastly expanded guide to as many past and current newsletters and association bulletins related to Asia as possible for eventual publication as a monograph through the University of Michigan.

All files in the Asian Studies Newsletter Archives are open by appointment to people visiting the Washington, D.C. area. Requests by mail for xerox copies of individual issues are being filled whenever possible at cost. Inquiries are welcome. A 46-page bibliography of archival holdings as of October 1984 is available at cost (\$5.00).

The cooperation of newsletter and association bulletin editors, university centers, various organizations and associations, cultural groups, and individuals everywhere will always be appreciated. Shulman would be grateful to have his name added to mailing lists for appropriate newsletters no matter how irregularly published or limited in distribution they might be. Please address all correspondence to:

Frank Joseph Shulman
Asian Studies Newsletter Archives
c/o East Asia Collection, McKeldin Library
University of Maryland
College Park, Maryland 20742 USA

16th Annual Conference on South Asia

The University of Wisconsin-Madison has announced the 16th Annual Conference on South Asia, to be held November 6, 7 and 8, 1987. For reservations and information, contact South Asian Conference, c/o Wisconsin Center, 702 Langdon Street, Madison, WI 53706.

Center for Tibetan Buddhist Studies

A new center for the study of Buddhist philosophy and meditation according to the Tibetan tradition will open soon near the Metro station in Silver Spring, Maryland, and will serve the Baltimore and Washington, D.C. area. The center belongs to the centuries-old Sakya Order of Tibetan Buddhism which emphasizes the integration of philosophical study and meditative practice. The Venerable Lama Kalsang Gyaltsen, a Tibetan monk and experienced teacher of Western students, has been named director of the center. Lama Kalsang has studied extensively with great teachers from all orders of Tibetan Buddhism and is a highly qualified teacher of both philosophy and meditation.

The opening ceremony and prayers will be held on Sunday, August 17, beginning at 11:00 a.m. Regular weekly instruction in Buddhist philosophy and meditative techniques will begin the following Sunday, August 24, at 2:00 p.m. Visitors and friends of all faiths are welcome to attend the opening ceremony and regular subsequent Sunday afternoon lectures, group meditation sessions and informal discussions of Buddhism and Tibetan culture.

The center is located at 8715 First Avenue, Apt. 1501 D, Silver Spring, Maryland. Please contact Lois Peak at (301) 589-3111 for more information.

Current work in Nepal by the University of East Anglia, U.K.

The Overseas Development Group (ODG) is part of a consortium that has recently won a £5 million contract to take over the Kosi Hills integrated rural development project previously run by the British Overseas Development Administration. The project will be for three years, starting in the summer of 1987. The consortium, which is spearheaded by Atkins Land and Water Management, also includes Tropag, from the University of Edinburgh, and the International Forest Science Consultancy. ODG will provide the services of a project economist, John Cameron, and a farming-systems expert, David Gibbon, in addition to many other shorter-term consultants. It is expected that there will be a large-scale training programme, to be undertaken at the University of East Anglia.

Himalayan Arts Council of the Pacific Asia Museum

The Himalayan Arts Council will hold its first symposium at the Pacific Asia Museum in Pasadena, California, on November 7, 1987. The symposium is titled "The Himalayan Crossroads." Relevant ideas include a focus on Tibetan art, exploring its origins and influences. As this is the first symposium of the Himalayan Arts Council, we want to make it a big success so that it may continue to be an annual event in the future.

The symposium will be divided into two sessions: morning and afternoon. The morning session will deal with the historical, geographical and socio-political aspects of the Himalayas, providing sufficient background for the afternoon session that deals with the arts. The papers presented at the symposium will be published in a book titled Himalayan Crossroads. The book will include a small number of papers, related to the theme, from scholars with speciality in Himalayan studies but unable to attend the symposium. These will serve to add to the book both volume and substance.

Anyone interested in submitting a paper for consideration must send the final copy before October 5, 1987. The proposed date of publication of the book is November 7, 1987. For further information, please contact:

Deepak Shimkhada
President
Himalayan Arts Council
46 North Robles Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91101